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Docket No. 38644-170539
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Client Reference WRAIR-91-31F

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of:) Examiner: Budens, R.
George H. LOWELL)
Serial No.:08/982,965)
Filing Date: December 2, 1997)
For: IMMUNOPOTENTIATING SYSTEMS FOR PREPARATION OF IMMUNOGENIC MATERIALS

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. - 20231

Dear Sir:

This is in response to a final Office Action dated March 27, 2001, time for response to which was set to expire June 27, 2001. This response date has been extended to September 27, 2001, by the enclosed Request for a three-month extension. Careful consideration has been given to the grounds for rejection and the following amendment and discussion are offered in response. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

AMENDMENT

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Amended) An immunogenic composition comprising an antibody inducing effective amount of a construct comprising a proteosome-gp 160 complex, wherein 1) the complex induces the formation of an antibody that binds gp 160 which antibody formation is further enhanced by at least 1.5 fold with an adjuvant, and 2) the proteosome and the gp 160 are present in a ratio which ranges from 1:1 to 1:20.

2. (Amended) A composition according to claim 1 further comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

3. (Amended) The composition of claim 2 further comprising an adjuvant.

6. (Amended) The composition according to claim 1 wherein the ratio is between 1:1 and 1:3.

7. (Amended) The composition according to claim 6 wherein the ratio range is 1:1.

8. (Amended) A method for inducing antibody formation in a host comprising administering an effective amount of the composition of claim 1 to host to induce the formation of an antibody that binds gp160.

10. (New) The composition of claim 1 wherein the complex is formed by mixing gp160 and proteosomes, combining gp160 and proteosomes and then lyophilizing or dialyzing.

10. (New) The composition of claim 1 wherein the complex is formed by gp160 and proteosomes and then dialyzing.